

February 1, 2010

Paul Stacey

Department of Environmental Protection

Bureau of Water Protection

79 Elm Street

Hartford, CT 06106

BUREAU OF WATER PROTECTION AND LAND REUSE
OFFICE OF THE BUREAU CHIEF

FEB 03 2010


Dear Mr. Stacey,

I am writing to urge you to pass the proposed Connecticut streamflow regulations. It is so important to maintain reasonable water levels in our states waterways to preserve the sensitive ecological systems that have existed in these stream and river environments for much longer than has the industries which have threatened them. It is a disservice to the ecological system of the state and to the Department of Environmental Protection itself to allow cost and industry to triumph over the natural needs of our waterways. Costs of and needs for water will only continue to grow if we do not implement a reasonable management system now.

I do agree with many of the points made by those who spoke at the January 22 forum. First, it would be helpful to have the stream classifications in place prior to implementation of the regulations thereby allowing municipalities and industries the opportunity to fully asses the effects of the regulations would have on them. It is this point that I feel is the strongest argument against those opposed to the regulations; they are not yet aware of the full impact they will have, if any, with out the stream classifications in place, yet they strongly oppose them. Second, I also encourage the Department to reconsider stream Classification 4. This classification will undoubtedly allow many of the states rivers and streams to be unregulated. Many of the states larger waterways are affected by pollution and low flow due to the large number of industries and municipalities that exist along these rivers. It is not appropriate to allow those rives and streams most in need of regulation to go by the wayside. Finally, anyone who is even vaguely familiar with the water cycle knows that groundwater and surface water are intricately related and must be considered as one entity. Groundwater is a source of natural flow to surface water bodies and surface water bodies are sources of recharge to groundwater reserves. Both groundwater and surface water must be addressed when considering the regulation of each.

Thank you for your time and I look forward to celebrating the passing of the proposed streamflow regulations!

Sincerely,


Megan Ambrose

Environmental Consultant

Concerned Citizen

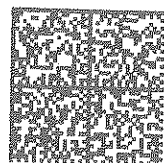
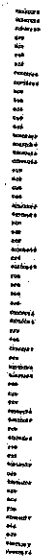
Department of Environmental Protection

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